CONSTRUCTION OF AN INTEROCEANIC CANAL
BY WAY OF LAKE NICARAGUA

Protocol signed at Washington December 1, 1900
Entered into force December 1, 1900

Treaty Series 64

Protocol of an Agreement Between the Governments of the
United States and of Costa Rica in Regard to Future Negotia-
tions for the Construction of an Inter-oceanic Canal by way
of Lake Nicaragua

It is agreed between the two Governments that when the President of
the United States is authorized by law to acquire control of such portion
of the territory now belonging to Costa Rica as may be desirable and
necessary on which to construct and protect a canal of depth and capacity
sufficient for the passage of vessels of the greatest tonnage and draft now
in use, from a point near San Juan del Norte on the Caribbean Sea, via
Lake Nicaragua to Brito on the Pacific Ocean, they mutually engage to
enter into negotiations with each other to settle the plan and the agreements,
in detail, found necessary to accomplish the construction and to provide for
the ownership and control of the proposed canal.

As preliminary to such future negotiations it is forthwith agreed that the
course of said canal and the terminals thereof shall be the same that were
stated in a treaty signed by the Plenipotentiaries of the United States and
Great Britain on February 5, 1900,¹ and now pending in the Senate of the
United States for confirmation, and that the provisions of the same shall be
adhered to by the United States and Costa Rica.

In witness whereof, the undersigned have signed this protocol and have
hereunto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate at Washington this first day of December, 1900.

John Hay [Seal]
J. B. Calvo [Seal]

¹ Unperfected; for text see 1901 For. Rel. 241.

1024